



Finance Department
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairperson and Members
Boston School Committee

FROM: Nathan Kuder
Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: Grants for Approval

DATE: May 25, 2022

Attached please find the grants for approval by the School Committee on May 25, 2022. Full copies of the grant proposals are available for your review and have been filed with the Office of the Secretary to the School Committee.

Boston Public Schools

Dr. Brenda Cassellius, Superintendent

Boston School Committee

Jeri Robinson, Chair

City of Boston

Michelle Wu, Mayor



GRANTS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

May 25, 2022

Amount	FY	Grant Name	Status	Fund Manager	Focus Area(s)	Sites
\$ 6,665	2022	GED/HiSet Testing Program	New	Kristen D'Avolio	Adult Education	Districtwide
\$ 16,000	2022	Comprehensive School Health Services	Increase	Lucrecia Rodriguez	Health Services	Districtwide
\$ 313,554	2022	ARP IDEA Early Childhood (FC 264)	New	Nadine Ekstrom	Special Education	Districtwide
\$ 339,707	2022	Supporting Students' Social Emotional Learning, Behavioral & Mental Health & Wellness (FC311)	New	Farah Assiraj	Multi-Tiered Systems of Support	Districtwide
\$ 280,000	2022	Career Technical Initiative	New	Kristen D'Avolio	Adult Education	Madison Park Technical Vocational HS
\$ 955,926	Total					

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS22120

Grant Name: GED/HiSET Testing Program

Status: New

Grant Type: Non-competitive grant

Start & End Dates: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Funding Source: State Fund 850

Grantor Contact: **Michael A. Farma**, M Ed.
High School Equivalency Specialist
W 781-338-3836 | **F** 781-338-3089
michael.farma@doe.mass.edu
Department of ESE
75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Department of Adult education and Community Services
Boston Central Adult High School

BPS Fund Manager: Kristen D’Avolio, Senior Director of Department of Adult Education

Department Head/School Leader: Kristen D’Avolio, Senior Director of Department of Adult Education

Annual Award Amount: \$6,665

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year):

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 500+tests administered to 200 students

Sites: Department of Adult Education

Key External Partners: None

Grant Description

Purpose of this grant is to support the operation of a High School Equivalency Test Center (HSE)including but not limited to, the cost for test administration, special needs, and technology upgrades.

Expense Categories this Grant Pays For

~100% of the grant will go to purchase computer equipment for upgrade or replacement of broken equipment

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals

Goal #1: In FY22, BPS will upgrade the computer llab with 5 desktops and 7 screens to prepare for reopening in FY23.

Indicator: New computers.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS22606

Grant Name: Comprehensive School Health Services Grant
Status: New
Grant Type: Competitive
Start & End Dates: July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
Funding Source: State
Grantor Contact: Juliet Sithole-Berk (She/Her/Hers)
School Health Services Coordinator
MA Department of Public Health
Division of Child/Adolescent and Reproductive Health
250 Washington Street, 5th floor Boston, MA 02108
Email: Juliet.Berk2@Mass.Gov
Phone:781-540-6095|Mobile: 781-540-6095

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): School Health Services

BPS Fund Manager: Lucrecia Rodriguez, Project Manager, Health Services

Department Head/School Leader: Djenny Lobo Lopes, Senior Director, Office of Health Services

Annual Award Amount: \$400,000

Increase \$ 16,000

Total Awarded this year \$ 416,000.00

Carry-forward option: Yes

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: all students district-wide

Sites: Boston District-wide: 46,169¹

Key External Partners: Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Grant Description

The Comprehensive School Health Services (CSHS) Grant through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) will be used to decrease absenteeism of students affected by chronic diseases through development of nurses' use of a case management approach to supporting students, including identifying students, creating support plans, following protocol/ curriculum, etc. The grant also provides funding for a Regional Consultant to provide expert consultation in school health services and share best practices across school districts, (public, private, and charter), within the Metro- Boston region (defined by MA DPH as Boston, Chelsea, Revere, Winthrop and Brookline).

¹ Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, School and District Profiles, Boston (00350000).
<https://profiles.doe.mass.edu/general/general.aspx?topNavID=1&leftNavId=100&orgcode=00350000&orgtypecode=5> consulted 5/10/2022.

Expense Categories this Grant Pays For

Pt I: For \$1,000,000 (\$250,000 per year for 4 years)

- Salary for 1.5 Case Management Resource Nurses for School Health Services (who coach nurses in supporting chronic diseases) plus benefits
- four nursing stipends and two health paraprofessional stipends for technical support of nurses
- payment for substitute nurses
- professional development for nurses (space, speakers, etc.)
- technology (laptops for nurses to access SNAP, the electronic medical record)

Pt 2: For \$600,000 (\$150,000 per year for 4 years)

- salary and benefits, travel, equipment, professional development for a Regional Consultant to provide expert consultation in school health services and share best practices across school districts within region

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals

Goal #1: The health records for students with diabetes will be standardized across the district by the end of SY19-20. We will measure this using the report feature in our electronic medical record, SNAP.

Indicator: The percent of health records for students with diabetes meeting standardized practices before and after the coaching and professional development provided by the new Case Management Resource Nurses.

Goal #2: The number of students with diabetes with complete Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) will increase by 20% in SY19-20. We will measure this using the report feature in our electronic medical record, SNAP.

Indicator: The number of IHPs for students with diabetes before and after the coaching and professional development provided by the new Case Management Resource Nurses.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS22669

Grant Name: ARP IDEA EARLY CHILDHOOD FC264

Status: New

Grant Type: Start & End Dates: 9/1/2021 - 6/30/2023

Funding Source: Federal - American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Supplemental Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (ART IDEA)

Grantor Contact: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Grantor Address: 75 Pleasant St, Malden, MA 02148

Grantor Phone: [\(781\) 338-3000](tel:7813383000)

Grantor Email: julia.b.foodman@mass.gov

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Office of Special Education

BPS Program Manager: Nadine Ekstrom

Department Head/School Leader: [Nadine Ekstrom](#)

Annual Award Amount: Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year): **\$ 313,554**

Carry-forward option: N/A

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 1223 students

Sites: Parentally-placed private school children with disabilities for ages 3 to 5 and BPS public schools servicing students with disabilities from ages 3 to 5.

How are these sites chosen? This grant focuses specifically on this age group. Public schools are required to support a portion of this funding for students placed in private schools who require special education services.

Key External Partners (if any): None

Priorities: Because of the pandemic, Boston has experienced an influx in referrals to the ESY program and will need to work towards expanding programming and providing more resources during the summer months to students. Boston will utilize the funding to provide professional development opportunities to staff to address the learning loss and remain equipped with the fundamental tools necessary to support the most vulnerable population of students. Additionally, this funding will also be used to provide technology and supplies to schools to support students in classrooms who have regressed substantially due to the COVID-19 emergency. Lastly, Boston has seen an increase in referrals to out of district programming for students, this funding will be used to enhance the resources for these referrals.

Purpose: Districts are provided with this funding to support services lost during COVID-19. This grant's purpose is to support BPS' responsibility in this work.

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals

Goal #1: Serve eligible children, ages 3 to 5 years old with disabilities, through the provision of special education and related services deemed essential for the child's success in developmentally appropriate activities;

Indicator: Funding will be allocated to provide staff with access to high quality professional development to best support students aged 3-5. In addition, instructional materials and resources will be purchased to equip early childhood classrooms with fundamentally appropriate resources to sustain life-long learning for transitional success. This will also support our Early Childhood identification activities and evaluation support staff. Lastly, this funding will support access to ESY for early learners.

Goal #2: Ensure services and supports are available for eligible children with disabilities, aged 3 to 5 years old, that are developmentally appropriate and specifically designed for 3 to 5 year olds; Provide special education services and supports in accordance with IDEA and Massachusetts Special Education laws and regulations; Ensure that young children have available to them a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education; Support young children with disabilities, aged 3 to 5 years old, in inclusive and natural environments; Ensure that the rights of children with disabilities and their parents are protected; Assist localities and education service agencies to provide for the education of all children with disabilities; Assess and ensure the effectiveness of efforts to educate children with disabilities.

Indicator: Funding will be allocated to provide staff with access to high quality professional development to best support students aged 3-5. In addition, instructional materials and resources will be purchased to equip early childhood classrooms with fundamentally appropriate resources to sustain life-long learning for transitional success. This will also support our Early Childhood identification activities and evaluation support staff. Lastly, this funding will support access to ESY for early learners.

Please specify how this grant aligns with the district's [20/25 Strategic Vision's Commitment](#) (s) and Priority(s). Please List them below: (see attached – go to (page 59)

1. Closing opportunity and achievement gaps.
2. Theory of action: IF we give every student what they need, earn the trust and true partnership of families, community members, and stakeholders through authentic engagement and shared leadership, deliver excellent service to students and families, and provide educators and staff with professional development and clear expectations... THEN we will become a high-performing, nation-leading district that closes gaps and improves life outcomes for each student.
3. Priorities: 2.8 Implement a comprehensive districtwide professional development plan for paras, teachers, counselors, and school and central leaders to develop capacity and expertise to change student outcomes as outlined in this plan.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS22678

Grant Name: FY2022: Supporting Students' Social Emotional Learning, Behavioral & Mental Health, and Wellness through Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (SEL & Mental Health Grant)

Status: New

Grant Type: Competitive

Start & End Dates: January 26, 2022 - June 30, 2022

Funding Source: State

Grantor Contact: Contact Name: Chris Pond
Address: 75 Pleasant St, Malden, MA 02148
Phone: 781- 338-3611
Email: christine.a.pond@mass.gov

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Behavioral Health Services & Office of Health and Wellness

BPS Program Manager: Farah Assiraj, Deputy Chief Academic Officer

Department Head/School Leader: Andria Amador, Senior Director of Behavioral Health
Jill Carter, Assistant Superintendent

Annual Award Amount:
Category A \$90,680
Category B \$150,000
Category C \$99,027
TOTAL: \$339,707

Total Award Amount (if grant period more than a year): \$

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students (or teachers, central office staff) served: 53,094

Sites: Districtwide

Key External Partners: Trinity Boston Connects

Grant Description

The purpose of this competitive, state and federally funded grant program is to adapt, expand, or strengthen multi-tiered systems of support to respond to the social-emotional and behavioral health needs of students, families and educators and to build strong partnerships with community-based mental health agencies and/or providers. Through this grant initiative, participating districts are asked to prioritize racial equity and cultural responsiveness, evidence-based interventions and supports, and sustainable systems and partnerships as they relate to social-emotional and behavioral health for students, staff, and families.

Expense Categories this Grant Pays For.

Category A.

~67 % Stipends for Focus Group Participants Gifts. Focus groups will be conducted with student and family members to collect feedback on the screening process and ultimate protocol response to “Question 24”. Additionally, focus groups will be conducted with teachers and school staff to collect their feedback on screening and ultimate “Question 24” response protocol.

~0.2% Transcription Services. Transcription services will be used to transcribe the focus group recordings for comprehensive and systematic data analysis.

~ 4% Stipends for School-Based School Psychologists. School-based school psychologists will be given a small stipend to support the work required to coordinate and facilitate the focus groups.

~10% Stipend for Central Office Data Analysis & Protocol Development Lead Position. We will hire one school psychologist to engage in the stipend work of supporting focus group administration, analyzing screening and focus group data, and developing a response protocol.

~18% Stipend for Protocol Development Team Members. A group of 8 interdisciplinary school staff will be recruited to serve on the Protocol Development team with the Central Office stipend position.

Category B.

~84% MTSS Program Manager. With this funding, we will hire an MTSS Project Manager to support the category B activities, coordination of various departments with the District MTSS cross-departmental workgroup and to develop a District SST and response system for schools.

~16% Contractor to develop a plan for an online MTSS platform for schools. \$ 24,416

Category C.

~20% Stipend for Central Office Resource Mapping & Database Development Position. One school psychologist or social worker will be recruited for the stipend position tasked with creating a database of culturally responsive community resources for students and families.

~80% Funding for Part-Time Community MH School-Based Partnership. The majority of funds will be used to fund a community mental health partner for those schools that do not have any community mental health partners.

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals

Category A.

Goal #1: Development of a universal district protocol for response and follow up to student self-harm endorsement on the BIMAS screener by the end of the 2021-22 school year for implementation next school year.

Indicator:

- Protocol developed
- Protocol distributed to schools
- Protocol Development Committee meeting note and minutes at each meeting
- Grant project manager system (used to track progress of each step of the grant work)

Category B.

Goal #1:

Indicator: Develop a systemwide website and resources for schools, educators and families on implementation of Equitable MTSS at the Boston Public Schools. The final collection of each department’s tiered services and professional learning will be utilized to build a new BPS-MTSS website that will launch this summer and offers the entire district access to the following indicators:

- Tiered Menu of Programs/Services by Department
- Tiered Menu of Professional Learning by Department and Interactive Calendar
- MTSS Implementation and Student Success Team Guidance for schools

- School and Student Level Data Guidance for schools
- Community Partners and Resources for SEL/Mental Health & Resources for Healing Spaces / Practices

Category C.

Goal #1: Development of a database with culturally responsive community resources for students and families by the end of the 2021-22 school year.

Indicator:

- Resources collected and housed in central Google Drive Grant Folder
- Resources reviewed, verified, and organized for accessibility
- Resources shared with families via brochure/website/newsletter/other resource
-

Goal #2: Provide mental health services/ supports to students by the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Indicator:

- Schedule of mental health / support services offered
- Student consent forms received
- Participation data (# of students who attend session)
- Student feedback (survey on experience of mental health service/support)

Please specify how this grant aligns with the district’s 20/25 Strategic Vision’s Commitment (s) and Priority(s). Please List them below: (see attached – go to (page 59)

Category A.

Focus groups will allow students, parents, and school staff to provide feedback on the screening process and in the development of response protocols (Commitment 3. Amplify voices)

Category B.

Focus groups will allow students, parents, and school staff to provide feedback on the screening process and in the development of response protocols (Commitment 3. Amplify voices)

Providing community mental health services to schools can assist in establishing relationships between schools and community mental health providers (Commitment 6. Activate partnerships)

Category C.

Providing community mental health services to schools can assist in establishing relationships between schools and community mental health providers (Commitment 6. Activate partnerships)

Lastly, if this grant was awarded to several sites, please specify how these sites were chosen to receive funds.

The grant was written as a collaborative cross-departmental initiative divided by categories of the grant (category A, B, and C). Categories A and C projects are led by the Behavioral Health Department and Category B is led by the Office of Health and Wellness.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACCEPTANCE FORM – BPS22668

Grant Name: CommCorp: Career Technical Initiative

Status: Year 1 of 2

Grant Type: Competitive

Start & End Dates: 07/01/2021 to 08/30/2023 (This is a continuation and a restructuring of a former pay-for-performance grant)

Funding Source: Commonwealth Corporation

Grantor Contact: Jess Saenz, Senior Program Manager
Phone: 857-273-1818
jsaenz@commcorp.org
2 Oliver St, Boston, MA 02109
<https://commcorp.org/program/career-technical-initiative/>

Lead BPS Department and/or School(s): Department of Adult Education

BPS Fund Manager: Kristen D'Avolio, Senior Director

Department Head/School Leader: Kristen D'Avolio, Senior Director

Total Awarded Amount: \$520,000: \$240,000 (Previously Approved by School Committee on 10/6/21)
Now Requesting the Remaining funds \$280,000

Current Awarded Amount **\$ 280,000**

Carry-forward option: No

Approximate # of students: 28 Automotive, 28 Carpentry, 10 HVAC, 10 Welding =76 students

Sites: Dept. of Adult Education/Boston Central Adult High School at Madison Park Technical Vocational High School Building Complex

Grant Description

The Career Technical Initiative seeks to address the persistent need for skilled labor in construction, trades, and manufacturing. Commonwealth Corporation administers these funds in hopes of eliminating the skills gap facing employers by providing an opportunity for youth and adults to retrain for skilled occupations, as well as transforming vocational high schools into Career Technical Institutes that run three shifts a day to bring more high school students and adults into the program.

Expense Categories this Grant Pays For

The grant will be used to pay for a CTI director, a part-time student support specialist, administrative support, fringe benefits for salaried employees, contracts and stipends for vocational teachers working after school hours, office and training supplies, computers, bus passes and other incentives for students (tools, boots, safety goggles, etc.).

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound (SMART) Goals

Goal #1²: By February 28, 2023, twenty-eight automotive students will complete the full course and earn related industry credentials.

Indicator: Completion of 250 hours and passing scores on OSHA 10 and Hotworks.

Goal #2: By August 30, 2023, twenty four out of 28 students will be employed in an industry related job for 6 months after completion of the program.

Indicator: Employer affirmation letter or pay stubs.

Goal #3: By February 28, 2023, twenty-eight carpentry students will complete the full course and earn related industry credentials.

Indicator: Completion of 250 hours and passing scores on OSHA 10 and Hotworks.

Goal #4: By August 30, 2023, twenty four out of 28 carpentry students will be employed in an industry related job for 6 months after completion of the program.

Indicator: Employer affirmation letter or pay stubs.

Goal #5: By July 1, 2022 ten HVAC students will complete the full course and earn related industry credentials.

Indicator: Completion of 250 hours and passing scores on OSHA 10 and Hotworks.

Goal #6: By 1/31/23 eight out of 10 HVAC students will be employed in an industry related job for 6 months after completion of the program.

Indicator: Employer affirmation letter or pay stubs.

Goal #7: By July 1, 2022 ten welding students will complete the full course and earn related industry credentials.

Indicator: Completion of 250 hours and passing scores on OSHA 10 and Hotworks.

Goal #8: By 1/31/23 eight out of 10 welding students will be employed in an industry related job for 6 months after completion of the program.

Indicator: Employer affirmation letter or pay stubs.

Strategic Plan Alignment

These goals are tied to the BPS Strategic Goal Number One: Eliminate Opportunity and Achievement Gaps. By supporting Boston's adult residents in earning their high school diploma or learning English, BPS Adult Ed serves highly talented students who have been impacted by social, systemic and social barriers, and racism in and outside of school.
